

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 057383
ORIGIN ARA-10

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P R 152007Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 057383

STADIS////////////////////////////////////
TO MBASSADOR FROM COUNTRY DIRECTOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AMGT, PFOR, NU

SUBJECT: PARM-77: COUNTRY DIRECTOR'S GUIDANCE

1. WE PERCEIVE NO FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE IN THE PREVAILING
ASSESSMENT OF LAST YEAR, THAT THE U.S. HAS ONLY LIMITED
OVERALL INTERESTS IN CENTRAL AMERICA. WE HAVE, HOWEVER,
MADE A SPECIAL EFFORT OVER THE PAST YEAR TO FOCUS
ATTENTION ON THE AREA AS A SUB-REGION AND ARTICULATE
THOSE INTERESTS THAT WE DO HAVE IN CENTRAL AMERICA IN
A MORE COHERENT FORM. WE HOPE THAT THE VARIOUS INTER-
CHANGES AND STUDIES WILL BE
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USEFUL TO YOU AS THE CURRENT PARM CYCLE DEVELOPS. IN
OUR VIEW, FORMULATIONS OF SPECIFIC PRIORITIES SHOULD
TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED FRAMEWORK FOR
CENTRAL AMERICA.

2. ON SPECIFIC ISSUES, THE HUMAN RIGHTS DEBATE REMAINS
THE MOST CRUCIAL AREA OF CONCERN FOR US. HOW DOES THE

NICARAGUAN GOVERNMENT PERCEIVE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE
HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE DURING THIS ADMINISTRATION? WHAT
IS GON'S PRESENT INTENTION IN DEALING WITH THE ALLEGED
HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS WHICH HAVE OCCURRED DURING

- -

THE LAST YEAR? WHAT SHOULD THE POLICY OPTIONS BE
VIS-A-VIS THE GON IN THE AREA OF HUMAN RIGHTS IF THE
GON CONTINUES TO IGNORE ACCEPTABLE PERFORMANCE
STANDARDS ON HUMAN RIGHTS? WHAT ALTERNATIVES DOES
THE GON HAVE IF WE DECIDE TO PURSUE THE ABOVE MENTIONED
OPTIONS? WHAT U.S. MEASURES STAND TO HAVE THE GREAT-
EST EFFECT IN PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS, IF THE GON
REFUSES TO REACT POSITIVELY? AT WHAT POINT DOES OUR
SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM BECOME IRRELEVANT?

3. WHAT IS THE OUTLOOK FOR POLITICAL EVOLUTION AS
THE CURRENT SOMOZA TERM WINDS DOWN? WHAT TRENDS ARE
DISCERNIBLE AMONG OPPOSITION GROUPS? WHAT ARE THE
IMPLICATIONS FOR U.S. POLICY?

4. SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHANGE WOULD BE WORTH SOME
ATTENTION, ESPECIALLY THE ROLE OF FUTURE BILATERAL
AND MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE IN LIGHT OF THE PRE-
SENT ATMOSPHERE IN THE AREA OF HUMAN RIGHTS.
WHAT ARE THE FORTHCOMING ECONOMIC PROSPECTS FOR THE
GON?

5. LAST BUT NOT LEAST, A PLEA FOR BREVITY. YOUR
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WASHINGTON READERSHIP IS MUCH MORE LIKELY TO FOCUS
ON A STREAMLINED, COMPACT DOCUMENT.
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